**April 13th, 2025 - Issue #263 – Palm Sunday**

**MESSAGE FROM FATHER CONNOLE:**

**The unfortunate result of mass deportations is that they often force separation of families, which should be problematic for all people of good will.**

**Regardless of immigration status, all people have an inherent human dignity and a natural right to due process. Their families and advocates deserve open information about where their loved ones are and what their legal status is at any given moment. We encourage our legal professionals to continue to work toward this end.**

**While we understand the need to enforce existing laws, our pastoral hope is that it would be carried out with greater nuance and sensitivity. There must be a way forward that respects families and basic human dignity. We ask our legislators to work together to find that balance in revising immigration policy.**

**April Upcoming Events:**

* **April 3rd - Thursday FIND Food distribution/Community Supplemental Food Distribution Program at 9:30.**
* **April 9th – Bingo at Sacred Heart. 6:00 – 9:00PM in the Salta Center.**
* **April 9th - the Christ of the Desert Ladies Guild luncheon.**
* **April 12th - K of C drive-through CRV recycle program. From 7:30AM to 11:30AM. Parking lot behind Salta Center.**
* **April 13th - Palm Sunday.**
* **April 20th - Easter Sunday.**

## **PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

## **What is the meaning and significance of Palm Sunday of the passion of the Lord.**

Palm Sunday is the day we remember and honor Jesus’ entrance into Jerusalem a week before his arrest on Holy Thursday and his crucifixion on Good Friday. As Jesus entered the city on a donkey, people gathered and laid palm branches and their cloaks across Jesus’ path, shouting: “Hosanna to the Son of David!” It is also significant because it fulfilled Old Testament prophecies. For example, Jesus rode into the city on a donkey, fulfilling the prophecy found in Zechariah 9:9. **It thus marks the beginning of Holy Week, the final week of lent.**

## **When was Palm Sunday first celebrated?**

The earliest evidence of Palm Sunday being celebrated dates back to the eighth century.

## **Why do we use palm branches on Palm Sunday?**

The palm symbolized victory in the ancient world. All four Gospels (Matthew 21:1–11, Mark 11:1–11, Luke 19:28–44, and John 12:12–19) tell us that people cut branches from palm trees and laid them across Jesus’ path and waved them in the air as he entered Jerusalem triumphantly a week before his death. As the Church enters Holy Week, the faithful use palms to commemorate his victory and Jesus’ passion liturgically.

**HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE AT CHRIST OF THE DESERT & SACRED HEART CHURCH:**

* + **April 13th - Palm Sunday. Christ of the Desert: Mass at 9:30. Korean Mass at 11:15.**
  + **April 13th – Palm Sunday Masses at Sacred Heart Church.**
    - **Masses: 6:00AM,8:00AM,9:30AM,11:00AM,12:30PM (Spanish),2:30PM (Latin),5:30PM & 7:00PM (Spanish).**
  + **April 17th – Holy Thursday. No services at Christ of the Desert.**
  + **April 17th- Holy Thursday. Sacred Heart Church. Solemn Mass of the Lord’s Supper: 6:00PM.** 
    - **Adoration at Altar of Repose following 6:00PM Mass.**
    - **No 7:45 AM Mass on Holy Thursday.**
  + **April 18th - Good Friday. Stations of the Cross at Christ of the Desert, led by Paulette Quaid, at 12:00. No Healing Mass.**
  + **April 18th – Good Friday - Sacred Heart Church:**
    - **No 7:45AM Mass on Good Friday.**
    - **2:00PM – Liturgical Service including Unveiling & Veneration of the Holy Cross & Holy Communion.**
    - **6:00PM – Live presentation of the “Way of the Cross”. (Bilingual) in the Salta Center Gym.**
  + **April 19th – Holy Saturday – 8:00PM Easter Vigil Mass at Sacred Heart Church (Bilingual).**
    - **No 7:45AM Mass at Sacred Heart Church.**
    - **No Easter Vigil Mass at Christ of the Desert.**
  + **April 20th - Easter Sunday at Christ of the Desert. Mass at 9:30. Korean Mass at 11:15.**
  + **April 20th – Easter Sunday Masses at Sacred Heart Church.**
    - **Masses: 6:00AM,8:00AM,9:30AM,11:00AM,12:30PM (Spanish),2:30PM (Latin),5:30PM & 7:00PM (Spanish).**

**OUR 2025 DDF GOAL IS $13,100. We have met our goal!!**

**$24,545 has been collected to date!!**

**Remember the following:**

* + **All monies collected (above $13,100) will be returned to us with no Diocesan taxation!!**
  + **These additional funds will enable us to continue our facility improvement projects in 2025.**

**Thanks, in advance, for everyone’s continued DDF support.**

**FATHER CONNOLE’S “EMERGENCY DOOR FUND” UPDATE: Contract awarded. Work to begin after Easter. (Hopefully)**

**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

**April 13, 2025 - Palm Sunday - Luke 19:28-40**

**“As he rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road.” (Luke 19:36)**

**Consider how useless it is to spread your clothes on the ground for a donkey to walk on. The clothes get smeared with hooves, and who knows the grimy places where they’ve been? The animal may leave some unsavory presents on them. They may get stolen by a thief looking to make a buck. The thorns, thistles, rocks and muck of the road will leave stains. The clothes may never be useful again, and you’ll probably walk home shivering without your normal covering. Yet this is precisely the gesture the people employ to welcome Jesus and his donkey. Why does this detail matter?**

**Wastefulness is an essential part of celebration. Consider the unnecessary extravagance of Christmas decorations, confetti and ticker tape parades, baseball players spraying each other with bottles of champagne after a victory, birthday gifts for kids and so on. This wastefulness signals celebration and therefore participation in higher identities (as believers, winners, and parents, to mention the above examples). That’s what the wasted cloaks are all about. Those who donate their cloaks participate in Christ’s kingship in Jerusalem — and we savor it two thousand years later.**

**The lesson? Learn how to “waste” money, time, clothes, and food on Christ. We do this at Mass, but in so many other ways, too, like serving the poor, going on retreats, and doing prayerful study. When we practice this holy wastefulness, Jesus will ride into our lives and we’ll be more deeply members of his kingdom.***— Father John Muir*

**April 13th – Palm Sunday:**

**Mass Readings:**

* **Procession –**[**Luke 19:28-40**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/the-triumphal-entry/)**: Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem, riding on a donkey and receiving a royal welcome from the crowds who hailed him as the Messiah and King who came in the name of the Lord.**
* **First Reading –**[**Isaiah 50:4-7**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/the-servants-faith-and-strength/)**: The prophet’s unwavering faith in God’s help and faithfulness in times of struggle, even in the face of opposition and ridicule, and his determination to continue proclaiming God’s message despite the challenges he faced.**
* **Responsorial Psalm –**[**Psalm 22**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/a-cry-for-help-2/)**: Psalm 22 is a lamentation that expresses feelings of abandonment, isolation, and despair, yet also includes expressions of trust and hope in God’s deliverance and salvation. It is a powerful prayer that resonates with many who have experienced deep suffering and pain.**
* **Second Reading –**[**Philippians 2:6-11**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/the-humility-and-exaltation-of-christ/)**: This reading highlights the humility and obedience of Jesus in his sacrifice for humanity, emphasizing his willingness to empty himself and become a servant, ultimately submitting to death on the cross. The passage calls for believers to follow Jesus’ example of humility and service, recognizing him as Lord and King of all.**
* **Gospel –**[**Luke 22:1-23:56**](https://young-catholics.com/read-types/the-last-supper-and-jesus-arrest/)**: The events leading up to Jesus’ crucifixion, including the Last Supper, his arrest, trial, and eventual crucifixion. The passage highlights the shame and suffering associated with this form of execution, as well as the magnitude of Jesus’ love for humanity.**

**Themes are gleaned from**[**www.young-catholics.com**](http://www.young-catholics.com/)

**JUBLIEE YEAR 2025: UPDATE**

**Pope Francis has started the 2025 Jubilee Year with the theme of “Pilgrims of Hope”.**

**The “Holy Doors” at Sacred Heart Church are the exterior entrance of the Padre Pio Adoration Chapel.**

**The Doors are open daily 6:00AM – 6:00PM.**

**In communion with and obedience to those desires promulgated by the Office of the Apostolic Penitentiary, the Diocese of San Bernardino has selected SACRED HEART CHURCH, Palm Desert as a Jubilee site whereat the faithful, having fulfilled the ordinary conditions for the reception of an indulgence, can receive the full remittance of any temporal effects due to sin, opening wide the doors of mercy and hope to an encounter with the risen Lord, in whom our hope “cannot disappoint.”**

**The norms for receiving an indulgence are that a person is "moved by a spirit of charity," is "purified through the sacrament of penance and refreshed by Holy Communion" and prays for the pope. Along with a pilgrimage, a work of mercy or an act of penance, a Catholic "will be able to obtain from the treasury of the Church a plenary indulgence, with remission and forgiveness of all their sins, which can be applied in suffrage to the souls in Purgatory."**

**ATTENTION: Ladies Guild Members:**

**The next Ladies Guild Luncheon will be on Wednesday, May 14th. Menu TBD Salad. Starting April 27th. We will be serving Sloppy Joes with ground turkey and potato salad. Dessert to be decided. Cindy will be collecting $5 after Masses to reserve a seat. Or you may email or call her at the office. 760-346-0089. We need to know how many will be joining us so we can plan how much food to prepare for our festive gathering! This will be our last luncheon until the fall.**

**REMEMBRANCE WALK – PAVER ORDER INFORMATION FOR NEW PARISHIONERS:**

**The “REMEMBRANCE WALK” IS LOCATED IS LOCATED TO THE RIGHT OF THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE CHAPEL. (behind the planter)**

**Forms are available from the Parish Office or back of the church. Installation will be within 30 days of your order. If you are not sure what you want to say on the paver, let me assist you!!.**

**In 2025 the following will be observed as Holy Days of Obligation:**

* **January 1st- Wednesday - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Not a Holy Day of Obligation in 2025.**
* **May 29th - Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter - Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord**
* **August 15th  - Friday - Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
* **November 1st  - Solemnity of All Saints (Saturday)**
* **December 8th – Monday- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**
* **December 25th – Thursday- Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ**

**FINANCIAL SECTION:**

**APRIL HAS 4 SUNDAYS FOR THOSE THAT GIVE MONTHLY.**

**Please make all checks payable to “Christ of the Desert” not Sacred Heart.**

**Total monies collected to date: $154,370\* or 102.9% of annual budget. Collection on Sunday the 6th was $2,571.**

**\*Monies collected each week reflect the Friday & Sunday Mass plus rental income from offices in the Courtyard, Weddings & Funerals.**

**This information is important for our community in order to understand where are financially throughout the year.**

        **Our Monthly expenses are budgeted at $12,500 per month or $37,500 per quarter. $150,000 annually.**

**Thanks for your continued generosity.**

**See instructions at end of Bulletin for ways to continue giving via your bank on-line service, there is likely a “setting” that will say “Autopay” or some other “Bill Pay” service.**

**THE POPE’S INTENTION FOR APRIL: For the use of the new technologies:  
Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.**

**The Christ of the Desert “Bulletin” now appears on**[**www.sacredheartpalmdesert.com**](http://www.sacredheartpalmdesert.com/)**website. Open up the site and click on “church”, look down on the bottom left for Christ of the Desert. Open up this site for the “bulletin” and other information about our community.**

**CELEBRATION SECTION:**

**There will be an information providing sheet on the table near the Chapel exit/entrance area.**

**You can always email the information to me as well.**

**You can sign up for any month NOW. I will keep a record of your special month and enter it when that month arrives.**

**WHO HAS A DATE IN APRIL & YOU WANT ME TO ADD TO THE NOTICES BELOW????**

**DISCLAIMER: If information below is incorrect, please let me know and I will correct the error.**

**2025**

**APRIL BIRTHDAY SECTION:**

**Bob Ruehl - April 3rd.**

**Mary Lindstrom – April 3rd.**

**Louise McCall - April 7th.**

**Barbara Dunn – April 14th.**

**Betty Schultz - April 17th.**

**Joyce Sosebee - April 18th.**

**Jim LaBaugh – April 18th.**

**Bob Smith – April 20th.**

**Carol Anderson – April 21st**

**Howard Lincoln – April 23rd.**

**Dan Smith – April 29th.**

**Dave Bannon – April 30th.**

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS IN HEAVEN:**

**Jamie Rogers – April 3rd, Brother of Crys Mueller.**

**Max Gregory Sosebee - April 16th, son of Joyce Sosebee**.

**APRIL HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY SECTION:**

**Carl & Lois Hickey – April 17th.**

**Jan & Patrick McCoy – April 30th.**

**APRIL REMEMBRANCE SECTION: “May their souls rest in peace”, Amen**

**Christine Smith, mother of Daria Smith, passed away on April 1st.**

**Larry Bean, husband of Louella, passed away on April 13th.**

**Daniel Pepper, husband of JoAnn, passed away on April 22nd, 2018.**

**John Schumaker, son of Jesse Schumaker, passed away on April 30, 2017.**

**Please provide Month, Date & Year & Relationship to family member being remembered**

**“Who would you like to pray” for section:**

**Please send me your new updated petitions which will appear in green.**

**Many of you pray for special intentions at Sunday Mass. Please send me those intentions so the entire Parish can pray to the LORD with you.**

**Hi Jay. Our prayer intentions: 1. For our 3-yr. old grandson, Terran, who is in Seattle Children’s Hospital with a central line infection (which he needs for nutrition and survival), and influenza A. We pray that he recovers with the antibiotics and be released soon.  
2. For our good friend Maureen, a holy and devout Catholic, that she recover from her pleurisy and pericarditis and live comfortably (she is only in her 50’s). For these intentions we pray to the Lord. Kathy Stambaugh**

**Please pray for Roger Gavin, new parishioner, who recently had a stroke. Betty**

**Joe has lung cancer and will start three months of radiation and chemo on December 12th. We ask for healing prayers, and that the will of Our Lord be done.  Judy Farnan**

**Please pray for my friend Craig Richard who was recently diagnosed with thyroid cancer. Daria Smith.**

**Please pray for Ted, Sandy and Eva. Roxanne Reed**

**Please pray for my daughter, Lisa Gruebel, who has been diagnosed with lung cancer, Suzanne Cummings.**

**THIS WE PRAY TO THE LORD!!!**

**Christ of the Desert office hours: 760-346-0089**

**Office hours are from 9:30 to 1:30 Monday- Friday. Please call first to be sure Cindy is available. When Cindy is in the office, the office door is locked. Please ring the doorbell “to get her attention”.**

**SUPPORT OUR PARISHIONERS WHO HAVE SMALL BUSINESSES SECTION:**

**If anyone else wants to advertise their business in the Bulletin, send me your information.**

**Thinking about selling your house or condo? Call Crys Mueller at 760 989 8732. I have been with BD Homes for the past 15 years.**

**John Maldonado is a Mortgage Loan Originator with First West Financial, Corp & a member of Christ of the Desert congregation.**

**"Your Home Loan Made Simple" We help you buy your dream home by simplifying the mortgage financing process with personalized loan options that save you time and money. If you need assistance with any type of loan, I am here to help.**

**For every loan that closes, I will make a donation to Christ of the Desert.**

**Contact: John A. Maldonado at** [**jam@firstwestfinancial.com**](mailto:jam@firstwestfinancial.com) **or call 760 636-8266. Mortgage Loan Originator,**

**NMLS #1995783,**[**WWW.firstwestfinancial.com**](http://www.firstwestfinancial.com/)

**Enedina Sutton, a Distributor of Nature Sunshine Products and a long time parishioner. Has Herbal Supplements, all kinds of Vitamins, ointments, essential Oils, disinfectant products and much more. I do the business from home. I can be reached at**[**760-345-3754**](tel:760-345-3754)**. I live in Sun City Palm Desert community.**

**Invented by NASA engineers, used on astronauts returning from space to rebuild muscle, bone and heal wounds “red light therapy” is now available. I am a new parishioner. Please call or email me: Rom Partyka 805-673-9235 or email at**[**rom1942@msn.com**](mailto:rom1942@msn.com)**for more information or to set up an appointment.**

**Need a good Catholic housekeeper? Call Elvia Pantoja at 760 698 6050. 20 years’ experience in the Indian Wells & Palm Desert area. References provided upon request.**

**ON GOING MESSAGE SECTION:**

**Please continue to consider supporting our community with the following options:**

**Mail your weekly or monthly offering to Christ of the Desert. All our regular mail goes to Sacred Heart so you would need to use that address. Make checks payable to Christ of the Desert.**

**CHRIST OF THE DESERT c/o.**

**SACRED HEART CHURCH**[**43-775 DEEP CANYON ROAD, PALM DESERT, CA 92260**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/43-775+DEEP+CANYON+ROAD,+PALM+DESERT,+CA+92260?entry=gmail&source=g)**.**

**OR**

**Go to your bank on-line service, there is likely a “setting” that will say “Autopay” or some other “Bill Pay” service. You can set up an automatic payment directly from there. If you have any trouble doing this or don’t have a computer, just call your bank and they can help you.**

**Please make sure that you tell the bank to make the check payable to Christ of the Desert but send the check to Sacred Heart’s address:**

[**43775 Deep Canyon Rd.**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/43775+Deep+Canyon+Rd.+Palm+Desert,+CA+92260?entry=gmail&source=g)[**Palm Desert, CA**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/43775+Deep+Canyon+Rd.+Palm+Desert,+CA+92260?entry=gmail&source=g)[**92260**](https://www.google.com/maps/search/43775+Deep+Canyon+Rd.+Palm+Desert,+CA+92260?entry=gmail&source=g)

**Jay Mueller**

**Stay Healthy! Do good work! Keep in touch!!!**

SHC & COD Finance Council Member

SHC & COD Parish Council Member

COD Remembrance Walk Coordinator

SHC Remembrance Square Coordinator

SHC East Valley Outreach Program Coordinator

CELL NUMBER 760-777-3745